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on Sunday, the 4th, carrying 766 steerage passengers. For these passengers 381 pieces of baggage were inspected and 126 were disinfected. The steamship *Pennsylvania* was inspected with reference to steerage accommodations on Friday, the 9th, preparatory to her sailing the following Sunday. Bills of health were issued during the week to 14 vessels, of which 12 carried cargo. The health of the port remains good, except for the increase in the prevalence of influenza, of which disease 595 cases were officially reported for the week ended February 3. There is some increase in the number of deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs, but the deaths directly ascribed to influenza are not reported. P. A. Surg. J. B. Greene visited me on the 8th instant for a conference on the subject of our work.

Respectfully,

A. C. SMITH,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Smallpox in Königsberg.

STETTIN, February 1, 1900.

SIR: I beg to state that advice from our agent at Königsberg reports 8 cases, of which 3 proved fatal. Every precaution to prevent an epidemic is being put to use. Should it become epidemic, paragraphs 6 and 7 of article 4, Quarantine Regulations, will be put into force by refusing to certify to invoices for shipment of rags, etc. There is no direct steamship connection between Königsberg and the United States.

Respectfully,

JOHN E. KEHL,

United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

HAITI.

Dysentery prevalent in Nippes.

CAPE HAITIEN, January 19, 1900.

SIR: I beg leave to hand you inclosed a translation of a medical report addressed to the Haitien Government by 2 doctors who were sent to the arrondissement of Nippes in the south of Haiti to investigate and report on a sickness that broke out in these localities in epidemic form some six months ago, and it seems is still spreading over other localities. No exact name is given to this malady, but thinking it important for the United States medical authorities to know about it at earliest opportunity, and not knowing whether the legation in Port au Prince had already the time to forward said report, I think I have acted to the Department's satisfaction in forwarding the report and its translation to-day.

Under separate cover I send the Official Gazette, which contains this report.

Respectfully,

T. BEHRMANN.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

PORT AU PRINCE, January 5, 1900.

SIR: Appointed by your Government to go and study the epidemic, raging in the plains of the arrondissement of Nippes, in order to determine its nature, we made haste to depart on the steamer *Nouvelle Voldroque*, and were at the place on December 19, 1899.

On our arrival at Anse-a-Veau, we at once put ourselves in communication with the local authorities.

The commander of the arrondissement, the commander of the districts, and the magistrate were unanimous in informing us that the populations of the plains had been for the past six months decimated by the epidemic, to the extent that in certain sections you would find the doors of houses closed on the right and left, the inhabitants having succumbed to the fatal malady which was at the moment raging in the districts of Petit Trou de Nippes and Baraderes. In order to better fulfill our mission, we at once decided to visit the above-mentioned districts.

The next day, with the good assistance of the commander of the arrondissement, we left for Petit Trou de Nippes, where the opportunity was afforded us to witness many cases where the appearances were so striking that we were thereafter determined on the diagnosis. Following is a brief description of the cases we have had under our notice:

An individual, in apparent perfect health, or after one or two days of malaise or blues, is taken by severe colics, followed sometimes by fever and vomiting, but always by incessant diarrhea. Soon the discharged matters change their nature; from bilious looking, as they were, they become totally sanguineous, characterized then by their incessant frequency, a painful expulsion, and their more or less insignificant quantities. The pains during these periods augment; they terminate invariably in false desires to go to the stool, which weaken the patient, who exhausts himself in fruitless efforts. This state reduces him to extreme prostration and finally to death. Thus ends, as a rule, the scene with all those attacked by the epidemic. Sometimes the stronger ones traverse this dangerous period, only to remain totally cachectic, with unfiltered members and cadaverous faces, left thus by the diarrhea.

These are certainly classical signs of acute dysentery. There was no possible doubt, but to better establish our conviction we left on the early morning of December 22 for Baraderes. We will not relate to you all the dangers to which the infuriated north winds exposed our frail vessel, nor of the uncomfortableness experienced during the voyage. We content ourselves to tell you that at 1 o'clock we were at our destination, Baraderes. There the epidemic is making havoc. It would be useless repetition to retrace the symptoms, as they are the same as we have already described. It suffices only to add that from Baraderes to the Petit Trou de Nippes, as centers, the epidemic ranges far and is spreading in the plains, causing great disaster.

What can be the cause of this disease that is making so many victims? You must first know, that in our country, and in the tropics in general, there reigns an endemic state, that, to pass to the epidemic, certain conditions are necessary to be known: Poverty, the use of impure water, constipation, overwork, bad alimentation, the total absence of hygiene, and as meteorologic conditions--the season of great heat, dampness, the sudden falls of temperature, etc.

Following up the conscientious observations that we have gleaned, we think that the bad alimentation, the water, poverty, constipation, and lastly, the meteorologic conditions (the disease having made its appearance toward the month of June, in the height of summer) are the provoking causes of this epidemic. Thus, at Petit Trou de Nippes, the disease is making havoc among the poorer class, striking principally the population of mariners who inhabit the seashore; while at Baraderes, the permanent dampness of the earth, occasioned by the frequent overflow of the river which encircles the town, the use of this bad water, the agglomeration of a heterogeneous population, as the commerce of that district is called, contribute to the progress of the disease. You know how the causes unite and combine in our plains, and how the many deaths of which we have been informed can be accounted for.

To arrest the development of so great a plague, there is not, unfortunately, any univocal medication. Hygiene holds the highest place, and among the medicines in use we have had to choose the less expensive and most efficacious.

Here is the medication which we have adopted, and of which we have prescribed the common use to the commander of the arrondissement de Nippes: Hygiene and prophylaxis. Avoid all excesses; alcohol, indigestible food, excessive fatigue, constipation, the use of impure water, lying on the damp ground. Guard against the sudden changes of temperature, take care to disinfect the contents of the stools of the sick by burning them in a pit dug for that purpose.

Avoid as much as possible contact with the sick, clean the bed linen carefully, and drink boiled water, filtered, if possible.

The disease once installed, place the patient immediately on a milk diet exclusively, and absolute rest in bed. Take, at the very first appearance of the disease, a purgative of salts, after which take as a tisane an infusion of 8 grammes of ipecac root in a pint bottle of water; renewing the tisane for three days with the same roots.

Let the patient take warm baths, generally from fifteen to twenty minutes, apply

to the abdomen laudanum emollient cataplasms. For infants abstain from using laudanum. To calm the straining, give warm emollient baths, adding 20 drops of laudanum. During convalescence, while continuing the diet of milk, restore the alimentation by beginning with eggs, raw beef (minced), brains, fresh fish (broiled), etc., but abstain from eating fat.

As tonic take a wineglass of maceration of quinquina before each meal. The above are the measures we have adopted, and it seems to us they should render valuable services if well executed. It is to be hoped that the Government, taking into consideration the fate of the country people, will put within their reach the means of being benefited by this treatment, through the magistrates of the different districts, by establishing a free service of the proper medicines. It would be advisable, also, that two physicians, at least, should officiate in the communities visited by the epidemic until its total extinction.

We will not close this report without paying a just homage and addressing our warmest thanks to Gen. Larrieux Jeune, commander of the arrondissement of Nippes, who gave us most cordial hospitality, and also to his aides, Generals Marmontel St. Louis, and Esope Milfort, commanders of the districts of Petit-Trou and Baraderes, whose sympathetic reception rendered easy our task. The remarkable zeal of the magistrates of the towns we visited, deserves mention also.

Accept, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of our distinguished sentiments.

DR. PAUL SALOMON,
DR. LELIO HUDICOURT.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Report from Honolulu.

HONOLULU, H. I., *February 2, 1900.*

SIR: I append on the overleaf a copy of my telegram of this date relative to the number of deaths by plague at this place since my last report of January 23.

The situation has changed wonderfully for the good since January 23. Two deaths occurred on January 24. Both of these were Chinese and outside of the detention camps; and one each on the 26th, 28th, and 31st. No new cases have been found since the 23d, with the exception of 1 at the Kalihi Detention Camp.

When the whole of Chinatown burned down on January 20, about 4,500 Chinese, Japanese, and natives were left homeless. This large number from the quarantined district had to be crowded into the detention camp, which had to be established to house those taken out of houses where deaths had occurred. It was thought that the number of cases would be large for a time because of the crowded condition, but only 1 case has developed since the 25th.

The camp now contains about 6,000 persons. At first they were not separated, so that as 1 case developed it made it necessary to begin the quarantine period over again. Now they are dividing the camp into sections, keeping up a perfect segregation, so that as soon as one section goes through the required period they may be allowed to go.

Yesterday the president of the board of health took Dr. Carmichael and myself through the Kalihi Camp. The intelligent work which has been done there in such a short time is something wonderful. The new arrivals are brought into a disrobing room, and from there taken to well-appointed bathrooms where they are bathed, and then taken to an uncontaminated room where new clothes are given them. From there they go to new houses which have been made aseptically clean. The clothes worn by the new arrivals are hung up in a hermetically sealed house and fumigated with sulphur fumes and then taken in clean covered carts to the camps.

The houses are detached, not more than 4 families being in the same